

Good afternoon Mr. Tobias:

Our FOIA office received your FOIA request dated September 11, 2018 and assigned it control number 2018-01291. Please cite this number in any future communications regarding your request.

In your request you asked for the following:

"Any and all written or electronic communications, including attachments, between BLM official Kathleen Benedetto and any officer, executive, representative and/or lobbyist for Hilcorp Energy Company, an oil and gas firm."

We have classified you as a representative of the news media. As such, we may charge you for some of our duplication costs, but we will not charge you for our search or review costs; you also are entitled to up to 100 pages of photocopies (or an equivalent volume) for free. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.39. If, after taking into consideration your fee category entitlements, our processing costs are less than \$50.00, we will not bill you because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See 43 C.F.R. § 2.49(a)(1). We do not anticipate any charges for the cost of processing this request.

We use Multitrack Processing to process FOIA requests. The Simple track is for requests that can be processed in one to five workdays. The Normal track is for requests that can be processed in six to twenty workdays. The Complex track is for requests that can be processed in twenty-one to sixty workdays. The Exceptional/Voluminous track is for requests requiring more than sixty workdays for processing. The Expedited track is for requests that have been granted expedited processing. Within each track, requests are usually processed on a first-in, first-out basis.

This request falls into the *Complex* track.

Even though we normally process requests on a first-in, first-out basis, because of the nature of your request and the circumstances surrounding this request, we will prioritize and process your request as the records become available.

If you have any questions, please contact us at BLM_WO_FOIA@blm.gov or 202-912-7650. Thank you for your interest in public lands and in programs and activities of the BLM.

[image: Inline image 1]

Washington Office FOIA Coordinators

Bureau of Land Management

Phone: 202-912-7650

Fax: 202-245-0027

BLM_WO_FOIA@blm.gov <BLM_WO_FOIA@blm.gov>